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LETTER DATED 15 AUGUST 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ALBANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 15 August 1995, addressed to you from H.E. Mr. Alfred Serreqi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania.

I would be grateful to you if this letter is circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pellumb KULLA
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 15 August 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania addressed to the President of the Security Council

The tragic developments in the former Yugoslavia have been and remain a source of concern for the Albanian Government and people the same as for the entire international community.

In the wake of its ultra-nationalist policy for expansion and the creation of the Greater Serbia, Belgrade has prepared and is implementing the plan for settling Serb refugees displaced from Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina in Kosova, which is inhabited mainly by an Albanian native population.

The settling of Serb colonists in Kosova is part of an old greater Serb plan to continue with greater intensity ethnic cleansing against the Albanians, with the aim of changing the ethnic composition, a practice condemned by international law. This action will further aggravate the tense situation in Kosova and inevitably lead to unforeseen developments, turning Kosova into a second Bosnia, running the risk of a spill-over of the conflict not only in the south of the former Yugoslavia but beyond. Therefore, we consider to be very urgent the adoption of effective timely measures to prevent an escalation of the conflict.

The Albanian Government, convinced that only the commitment of the international community and its structures can exert its influence in preventing the serious consequences of such an act on the part of Belgrade, asks you, Your Excellency, as President of the Security Council, to make your precious contribution within the framework of the efforts of the international community to stop the ethnic cleansing in Kosova and prevent a spill-over of the conflict. Belgrade should clearly and unequivocally receive the message that it will not be allowed to continue with its heretofore policy of expansion and warmongering in the Balkans.

I take this opportunity to stress that the Albanian Government considers indispensable the inclusion of the Kosova issue in the efforts to achieve an overall solution of the crisis in the former Yugoslavia. Otherwise, it would be difficult to hope on a correct and final settlement of this crisis. I express my belief that in this regard you, Mr. President, will do your best that this issue is treated in an objective manner and with the attention it deserves.

The Albanian Government has watched with concern and has not been indifferent towards the developments in the former Yugoslavia and has tried that they be solved through dialogue. We want to point out on this occasion that it will not be indifferent and will not adopt a passive stand towards a spill-over of the conflict in the South, which is finding its concrete embodiment in the ethnic cleansing against the Albanians in Kosova and its colonization with colonists gathered together from the territories of the former Yugoslavia.

Looking forward to your valuable contribution to stay the hand of Belgrade and to put an end to its methods of colonization, I express my gratitude for everything you will do in the defence of the human principles against the policies which run counter to the democratic spirit of our time.

(Signed) Alfred SERREQI